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OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

DANIEL M. DOOLEY Senior Vice President – External Relations Office of State Governmental Relations 1130 K Street, Suite 340 Sacramento, California 95814 (916) 445-9924 Steve Juarez, Associate Vice President and Director

September 23, 2013

The Honorable Edmund G. Brown, Jr. Governor, State of California State Capitol Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: SB 239 (Hernandez) - REQUEST FOR SIGNATURE

Dear Governor Brown:

The University of California (UC) is very pleased to support Senate Bill (SB) 239, a bill introduced by Senator Hernandez in the current legislative session that would extend the current hospital fee program until December 2016. The hospital fee program imposes fees on certain general acute care hospitals to enhance federal funding and help offset the low reimbursement rates in the Medi-Cal program.

As you know, the University operates academic medical centers at the Davis, Los Angeles, Irvine, San Diego, and San Francisco campuses – as well as trains health professionals in the nation's largest health sciences and medical training program through 18 schools/programs on seven UC campuses. The five-UC medical centers are designated public hospitals part of the state's health care safety net, delivering high quality care to all who need it, regardless of ability to pay or insurance status.

SB 239 builds on the current hospital fee program that has served as an important mechanism to bolster federal funding to California's Medi-Cal program. As health reform implementation moves forward, it will be critical that public hospital systems maintain funding streams allowing for the continued ability to effectively meet the needs of our patients, including the millions who will remain uninsured.

On behalf of the University of California, we urge your signature. Please feel free to contact me at (916) 445-9924, if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

angela M. Milliard

Angela M. Gilliard, JD Legislative Director

cc: The Honorable Edward Hernandez

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